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By: Joanne R. Petithory

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Attorney Docket No: 0202us810

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

A. H. Pedersen, *et al.*

Application No.: 09/648,569

Filed: August 25, 2000

For: NEW INTERFERON BETA-LIKE
MOLECULES

Examiner: Holbrook, Pamela G.

Art Unit: 1647

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT and
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Requirement for Restriction/Election dated March 26, 2002 in the above-referenced application, Applicants respectfully request that the following Amendment be considered prior to examination on the merits in view of the following remarks. A petition to extend the period of time for response for two months, from April 26, 2002 to June 26, 2002, accompanies this amendment.

Applicants thank Supervisory Patent Examiner Gary L. Kunz for helpful comments and suggestions provided during a telephone conversation with Applicants' representative Joanne R. Petithory on June 10, 2002.

AMENDMENT**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-72 without prejudice to subsequent renewal.

Please add new claims 73-115: